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BOROUGH of WAREHAM

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1962



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FOREWORD

Public Health Office,
Health Centre,
Swanage,
Dorset.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Wareham

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Wareham for the year 1962.

The report is set out in sections in the following order:-

	<u>Pages</u>
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The health of the district, generally speaking, remained satisfactory throughout the year and no case of serious infectious disease was notified.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General at mid 1962, showed an increase of 40 on the 1961 figure. Births registered were eighteen more and deaths twelve fewer than in 1961. The live births registered exceeded deaths by twelve.

The vital statistics compare very favourably with those for the country as a whole.

It is pleasing to be able to report that at last progress has been made for the provision of adequate and efficient treatment of the Borough's sewage.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration during the year, and the other Officials of the Council for their help and co-operation, especially your Public Health Inspector, Mr. Tanner, for his assistance in preparing this report.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,
E. J. O'KEEFFE,
Medical Officer of Health

August, 1963.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. J. O'Keeffe, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. R. Tanner, M.S.I.A.

The Medical Officer of Health holds in addition the following appointments:-

Medical Officer of Health to the Swanage Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health to the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District Council.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer, Dorset County Council.

Office accommodation and clerical assistance are provided for the Medical Officer of Health jointly by the Authorities concerned.

The Public Health Inspector in addition to his statutory duties is also the Borough Surveyor and Petroleum Officer.

The Committees of the Council concerned with matters of Public Health are the Law and General Purposes Committee, the Waterworks and Sewerage Works Committee and the Housing Committee.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the Borough	...	...	...	...	710 acres
Population	...	...	at Census 1961	...	3,098
			as estimated by Registrar General mid 1961	...	3,070
			as estimated by Registrar General mid 1962	...	3,110
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	at end of 1961	...	939
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	at end of 1962	...	968
Rateable value at 1st. April, 1962	...	...			£35,386
Product of 1d. rate at 31st. March, 1962			...	...	£139 12.0

VITAL STATISTICS

Area comparability factors for births 1.04 for deaths 0.65					
			<u>Comparative Rates</u>		
<u>Live Births</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Wareham Borough</u> <u>England & Wales</u>
Total registered	...	64	34	30	
Legitimate	...	63	33	30	
Illegitimate	...	1	1	-	
Rate per 1000 population	20.57	...	...		21.4 18.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births					1.4
<u>Still Births</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Total registered	...	1	1	-	
Legitimate	...	1	1	-	
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	
Rate per 1000 total live and still births				...	15.4 18.1
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Total registered	...	65	35	30	
<u>Deaths</u>					
Total registered	...	52	23	29	
Rate per 1000 population	16.7	...	...		10.9 11.9
<u>Infant Deaths (under 1 year)</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Total registered	...	-	-	-	
Legitimate	...	-	-	-	
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>					
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	...	...			Nil 21.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	...				-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births					-
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)	...				-
<u>Early neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)	...				-
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	...				-
<u>Maternal Mortality</u> (including abortion)					
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	-

CAUSES OF DEATH - YEAR 1962

(Supplied by the Registrar General)

Cause of Death				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	...	...	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infection	...	...	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-	-
8	Measles	...	...	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	-	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	1	1	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	4	3	7
15	Leukemia, aleukemia	...	...	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	...	...	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	2	-	2
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	6	9	15
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	-	-	-
20	Other heart diseases	...	...	2	2	4
21	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	1	2	3
22	Influenza	...	...	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	...	...	1	1	2
24	Bronchitis	...	...	1	-	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	-	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	1	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	...	...	2	7	9
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-	-
34	All other accidents	...	...	-	-	-
35	Suicide	...	...	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-	-
Total				23	29	52

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Poole and East Dorset Water Board which came into being on the 1st. April, 1960, control the public piped water supply in the Borough. The water supply to the area has been adequate and has been maintained at a highly satisfactory standard of purity throughout the year.

Particulars supplied by the Poole and East Dorset Water Board

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager for the following information which is taken from that supplied for the Board's southern district which comprises the Borough of Wareham, the Urban District of Swanage and the Rural District of Wareham and Purbeck. The water supplied by the Board in the district derives from wells or boreholes at Worgret, Briantspuddle, Bloxworth, Corfe Castle, Ulwell and Church Knowle. The water for the Borough of Wareham is supplied from the Worgret source.

Details of Source and Treatment Applied.

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type of Source</u>	<u>Depth of Well</u>	<u>Treatment Applied</u>
Worgret	Well	30 feet	Iron removal and pH correction, pressure filtration & chlorination.

During the year the Board abstracted 91,250,000 gallons of water from the Worgret source; 4,890,000 gallons more than in 1961. The water was maintained at a high level of purity and was sufficient to meet all demands.

Twenty samples were taken from consumers' taps by the Public Health Inspector for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Service Laboratory and the following results were reported:-

<u>Local Authority Area</u>	<u>Total Number of Samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Wareham Borough	20	18	2	0	0

Regular bacteriological examinations of both raw and distributed water were made in the Board's Laboratory giving the following results:-

Raw Water

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No. of samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>				<u>Max PC at 37°C.</u>	<u>Coli 1 Demonstrated</u>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>		
Worgret	43	30	8	4	1	35	1

(PC = plate count)

Distributed Water

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No. of samples</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Worgret	48	46	1	1	0

Plumbo Solvency

The raw water from Worgret is plumbo solvent. This is corrected during the iron removal process continuously applied at the source.

Chemical Analyses

Frequent checks of chlorine residual are made in the control of treatment plants and in samples taken from mains and consumers' taps throughout the area of supply. Chemical Analyses of raw and treated water were also made.

Analysis of a Sample of Raw Water taken from Worgret Pumping Station

Chemical Results in Milligrammes Per Litre

Appearance - Faint yellow colouration & slightly turbid.	Taste & Odour - Taste 'flat' & odourless.
pH 6.6	
Hardness: Total 93.0	Temporary 24.0
	Permanent 69.0
Total solids, dried at 180°C... 160.0	Fluorine -
Chlorine in Chlorides 21.5	
Nitrates 3.35	Nitrites 0.05
Free Ammonia 0.160	Albuminoid Ammonia ... 0.280
Metals: Fe 0.93 Cu, Pb, Zn absent	
Alkalinity 42.0	
Residual Chlorine -	
Free Carbon Dioxide 21.5	

Bacteriological Results

Number of Bacteria growing on Agar per ml in 24 hrs. at 37°C	1
" " " " " " " " " " 48 " " " "	1
Coli-aerogenes Count per 100 ml	6
Escherichia coli Count per 100 ml	0

Radioactive Substances

BetaActivity in microcuries per millilitre -

Analysis of a Sample of Distributed Water taken from Reservoir Worgret
Pumping Station.

Chemical Results in Milligrammes per Litre

Appearance - Colourless & Clear	Taste & Odour - Pleasant and odourless.
pH 7.6	
Hardness: Total 102.5	Temporary 32.5
	Permanent 70.0
Total Solids, dried at 180°C 157.0	Fluorine -
Chlorine in Chlorides 24.5	
Nitrates 5.64	Nitrites 0.030
Free Ammonia 0.024	Albuminoid Ammonia 0.030
Metals: Fe 0.41 Pb. Cu, Zn Absent	
Alkalinity 48.0	
Residual Chlorine 0.08	
Free CO ₂ 2.1	

Bacteriological Results

Number of Bacteria growing on Agar per ml in 24 hrs. at 37°C	0
" " " " " " " " " " 48 " " " "	0
Coli-aerogenes Count per 100 ml	0
Escherichia coli Count per 100 ml	0
Report Class I - Excellent.	

Radioactive Substances

BetaActivity in microcuries per millilitre -

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

During the year the Council agreed to combine with the adjoining Rural District Council in the provision of a joint sewage disposal works at Sandford Road which would result in the abolition of the Council's existing works at Sandford Lane. The existing site is grossly overloaded but new houses are continually being added to it. Occasionally complaints are received of smell from the works from residents on the Sandford Road, especially when the wind is blowing from the south-east. Residents here, will, I am sure be pleased when the new works are in operation.

The sewerage system in addition to serving the Borough receives sewage from some 59 houses in the Bestwall area and 12 Forestry Houses at Carey, both situated in the adjoining Rural District. There were no reports of flooding at the Old Granary.

No. of houses not connected to the sewer	...	...	12
No. of houses with pail closets	...	...	Nil
No. of houses with cesspools or septic tanks	...	...	12
No. of pail closets abolished during the year	...	...	Nil
No. of cesspools/septic tanks abolished during the year	..		1
No. of houses connected to the sewer during the year	...		18

The sewerage system consists of three pumping stations situated at South Bestwall, North Bridge and Northport, and a disposal works is situated on eight acres of land at Sandford Lane. The length of rising main is 4,100 yards. The Carey Estate development discharge is pumped into the sewer in Carey Road which gravitates to the Northport Station. The new Sandford Road Housing Estate discharges to a Pulsometer Solids Diverter type pump, similar to Carey Estate and is pumped into Sandford Road, which also gravitates to the Northport Station.

The Disposal Works consist of:-

- 1 Balancing Tank - capacity 7,814 gallons
- 2 Dortmund Tanks - capacity 39,060 gallons
- 8 Sludge Beds - area 8,100 sq.ft.

An area of approximately 5.6 acres of land is used for the treatment of the effluent from the Dortmund Tanks. Whereas the effluent used to discharge at random on to the land the area is now laid out in a regular pattern in a series of "Lagoons", and the effluent can be controlled to some extent. The works, however, are grossly overloaded and the ground is now "sewage sick", furthermore the dry weather flow from the three pumping stations is now a substantial one and there is not proper settlement of the sewage in the settlement tanks. Consequently the effluent passing through the perimeter of the works is now substantial and during very wet weather is more so, owing to the ingress of surface water into the foul sewers.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of Inspections

Bakehouses	2	Public Lavatories	4
Building Byelaws	349	Public Health Acts	20
Butchers Shops	16	Petroleum Acts	15
Cafes	4	Refuse Disposal	4
Caravan Sites	2	Rodent Control	4
Dairies	1	Schools	3
Drainage & Sewerage	84	Sewage Disposal System	
Food Inspection	1	& Sewage	36
Food Premises	14	Shops	1
Factories	26	Market	1
Housing (Housing Acts)	24	Miscellaneous	217
Housing (General)	479	Samples - Water (Bact.)	20
Housing (Capital Works)	26		

Total 1,345

Statutory and Informal Notices

<u>Notices</u>	<u>No. served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Informal	4	4	Nil
Statutory	Nil	Nil	Nil

Caravan and Camping Sites

The one caravan site in the Borough is situated on the North Causeway and the Lessee is permitted to station up to 44 caravans including 20 residential. The site is licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. All services are provided and the sanitary block is drained to a septic tank and filter. Visits are made to this site which is maintained in an excellent condition.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council own one "Karrier" Bantom Vehicle and one Gibson Pendulum Compression Vehicle. House and Trade refuse collections are made weekly. Collections are normally carried out in two days. A small amount of salvage is collected whenever possible.

Street Cleansing

The main streets are cleansed and swept daily and the minor streets on an average once per week; outlying minor streets are cleansed as often as possible. Litter is still deposited in the streets and the Litter Act, 1958, does not appear to have had the effect that it was hoped it would have.

Public Lavatories

There are two conveniences in the Borough situated at Howards Lane (women & men) and St. John's Hill (men only). These are cleansed daily and well maintained. I am pleased to report that the "Tyrolean" finish to the walls in the mens' has solved the problem of wall-markings. Hooliganism does occur but now very rarely.

Swimming Baths

There is one swimming bath in the Borough at the County Modern School for the use of the pupils. Bathing takes place in the River Frome near the Quay during summer months. There is no public swimming bath in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement and Clean Air Act, 1956.

No action was necessary under this Act.

Petroleum Acts and Regulations.

Ten licences are in force for the storage of petroleum spirit. Occasional visits are paid in respect of these.

Disinfestation No infestations were reported during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

All bottled milk comes from outside the Borough. All milk sold is either "Pasteurised", "Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised" or "Tuberculin Tested" as the Borough is part of a specified area under Section 37 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Number of Milk Distributors on Register 31.12.62 ... 8

Milk Sampling

During the year 17 samples of milk were taken in the Borough by the Food and Drug Authority for examination. All samples passed the statutory tests.

Food Inspected and Condemned

Tinned Goods	-	20 lbs.
Beef	-	42 lbs. (Bone taint)
Mutton	-	8 lbs. (infected gland)

There are no slaughter houses in the Borough.

Food Premises

(1) Number of Food Premises by Type of Business in the Area

Grocers	11	Bakehouses	1	Cafes & Restaurants	6
Greengrocers	5	Fish Shops	3	Licensed premises	11
Butchers	5	Fried Fish Shops	2	(including 3	
Dairies	1	Sweets &		Hotels)	
		Confectionery	7		

(2) Number of Food Premises by Type Registered

(a) Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Manufacture of sausages and preserved foods	6
Fish Frying premises	2
Sale of Ice-cream	21

(b) Under Milk and Dairies Regulations

Dairy premises	1
----------------	---

(3) Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Premises for manufacture of sausages	6
Fish Frying premises	3
Ice-cream premises	15
Dairy premises	1

Inspection of Food Premises, Cafes, etc.

Visits were carried out to most of the various food premises but in no cases were formal actions necessary.

Informal notices served during the year - 3

During the year it was agreed with the Public Health Laboratory to take samples of various food, chiefly meat, with a view to obtaining evidence of salmonella infection and its prevalence in meat. Samples were taken of minced beef, beef and pork sausage meat as follows:-

	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Minced beef	7	2 samples - S.gatuni isolated.
Pork Sausage meat	7	1 sample - S.gatuni isolated.
		All other samples satisfactory.

H O U S I N G

Seventeen dwellings were erected during the year. No Council dwellings were erected.

During the year roads and sewers were constructed on the Council's new Sandford Road Housing Estate and a start was also made in the erection of four 3 - bedroom houses and eight 2 - bedroom houses. A start was also made on the nine flats in Brixey's Lane. The Council is now considering the development of the Church Lane / Wyatts Lane site.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	10
Number of house inspections made	...	...	24
Number of informal notices served	...	...	4
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	4
Number of Statutory notices served	...	...	Nil
Number of houses reported under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	Nil

Action taken by the Local Authority in respect of such houses:-

(a) Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Undertakings accepted for -				
(i) Closure	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) Reconditioning	...	...	...	Nil
(iii) Other action	...	...	...	Nil

Number of houses included in clearance area for the year, Nil

Overcrowding

No cases of statutory overcrowding were reported during the year.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Housing Act, 1961

The following grants were made during the year:-

Discretionary Grants in respect of 13 dwellings.
Standard Grant in respect of 1 dwelling.
Total improved to date - 75 dwellings.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.

Housing Applications

The following shows the number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses -

Persons residing in the Borough	-	38
Persons residing outside the Borough	-	28
Aged Persons (Borough bungalows)	-	28

<u>Housing Programme</u>	<u>No. of Houses Proposed</u>	<u>Completed in 1962</u>	<u>Completed since 1945</u>
Sandford Road	36	Nil	Nil
Brixey's Lane	9 (flats)	Nil	Nil

New Houses

Total number erected during 1962	...	...	17
Number erected with State assistance:-			
(a) By Local Authority	...	...	Nil
(b) By other Bodies or Persons...	...	...	Nil

<u>Houses Owned by Local Authority</u>	<u>Built Pre-war</u>	<u>Built since 1945</u>	<u>Total</u>
Permanent	103	147	250
Prefabricated	-	10	10

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were few cases of infectious disease in the Borough during 1962, and it is many years since a serious case of infectious disease, apart from tuberculosis, was notified. The last case of poliomyelitis occurred in 1953, when two paralytic cases were notified, and the last case of diphtheria was notified in 1952, in an adult. The last case of diphtheria in a child was in 1945, which proved fatal.

An outbreak of mild influenza was prevalent during the end of 1961 and the beginning of 1962. At the end of the first week in January, notification was received from the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance that the national insurance certificates had increased by 300% and that this was mainly due to influenza.

Apart from two deaths from pneumonia there were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

Immunisation

Schemes for immunisation are administered in the area by the County Council as the Local Health Authority. Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, Dollins Lane, on the second and fourth Thursday every month from 2 to 4 p.m.

Immunisation is also carried out by the Medical Practitioners in the area including immunisation against smallpox.

Immunisation with B.C.G. of the older age group children is carried out at schools in the area by the Medical Officers of the Local Health Authority.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The scheme for immunisation against poliomyelitis includes all ages up to 40 years, and certain priority groups who are likely to be exposed to special risk of infection.

During the year immunisation with the oral poliomyelitis vaccine Trivalent Sabin Type was introduced.

Vaccination and Immunisation Statistics, Wareham Borough 1962

(P) Primary dose

(B) Booster dose

Poliomyelitis						Diphtheria		Whooping cough		Tetanus		Smallpox	
Oral			Salk			P	B	P	B	P	B	P	B
Basic Course	3rd.	4th.	P	3rd.	4th								
34	28	3	15	45	16	46	93	43	13	50	34	205	89

Notifications (Corrected) Figures

Disease	Total	1st. Qtr.	2nd. Qtr.	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet fever	1	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	5	-	-	-	5	-
Tuberculosis - respiratory	1	1	-	-	-	-
- other forms	1	-	-	-	1	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-	1	-	-

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified During 1962

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Age Group</u>									
		Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	Over 24	A.U
Scarlet fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	5	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
		<u>Under 5</u>								<u>65 & Ov</u>	
		5	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Ov	A.U			
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other forms	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Scabies and Verminous Conditions

Two cases of verminous condition of the scalp in children were reported during the year. There were no cases of scabies reported.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. - Section 47. Removable of persons in need of Care and Attention to Suitable Premises.

It was not necessary to take any formal action under this section of the Act during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1959

Part I of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	24	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	37	26	2	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re- medied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total ...	2	2	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK - Section 110 and 111

Outworkers - NIL

